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General Theory of Law. By N. M. Korkunov. Late Professor of Public Law, University of St. Petersburg. English Translation by W. G. Hastings, Dean of the Law Faculty, University of Nebraska. The Boston Book Company, Boston. 1909 pp. 501.

To the lawyer who wishes to gain a bit more of learning than what can be expressly stated in an every day, commonplace suit, this book should appeal. To the student of the law, and the logic thereof, this volume is an absolute necessity. For nowhere can the ingenious Russian theories of the law be so well expressed as they have been by Professor Korkunov, "and though living in a country of absolutism and of censorship, he does not fear to attack the most delicate problems of public law."

The book itself, though frequently setting forth ideas traceable to German rather than English thought, has enough of that universal knowledge within it to give it interest to one not particularly interested in affairs and thoughts Russian. The theories in chief which underlie world-wide legal reasoning are all present and are touched upon in an original and straightforward way.

There is a particularly fine introduction. The body of the volume itself is divided into four books, which in turn are divided into chapters and these again into sections. Sources for collateral reading are neatly arranged at the head of the chapters. The index, a necessary part of a book so often slighted, is happily in this instance upon a par with the text.

The first Russian edition of this work was published in 1887. It argues well for the bone and sinew, the forceful expression, and ultimate truths of this work that it has already gone through eight editions. This English edition is extremely well edited by Dean Hastings, of the University of Nebraska, who, in his short but pointed preface, immediately puts one in sympathy with both subject and author.

S. B. L.